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DOCTOR HOWARD LEAVES FOR VISIT TO PACIFIC COAST FIELD LABORATORIES

Doctor L. O. Howard left Washington May 29 for an extended trip to the Pacific Coast. He expects to arrive at Seattle, Wash., on June 2, Portland, Oreg., on the 5th, and at San Francisco, Calif., on the 8th. While in Seattle and Portland he plans to confer with those carrying on work against the European earwig and with Federal, State, and station entomologists in Washington and Oregon. At Portland, he will also confer with Walter Carter, who has charge of the Bureau's investigations of the sugarbeet leafhopper. In California, stops will be made at San Francisco, Sacramento, Stockton, Lake Tahoe, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Alhambra, Riverside, and the Escondido Valley for conferences with entomologists, quarantine inspectors, and others. He will attend the scientific meetings in Oakland, the meeting of the Pacific Coast Entomological Society, and the meeting of the American Association of Economic Entomologists at Berkeley, delivering an address at the last on "Insects and Human Progress," and will also make an address before the Commonwealth Club of California. While in the Escondido Valley he will investigate the silk culture that is being carried on there.

Leaving San Francisco on the return trip about July 7, he expects to visit the Bureau's laboratories at Salt Lake City, Utah, Billings, Mont., and Monroe, Mich., and will, before returning to Washington, go to Ontario, Canada, for conferences with entomologists at Kingston, Toronto, and Ottawa, with special reference to the introduction and establishment of parasites of the European corn borer.

DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Associate Chief of Bureau, in Charge.

E. J. Newcomer, in connection with his trip to the Kennewick, Wash., apple district, addressed the fruit growers on codling moth control.

O. I. Snapp, in charge of peach insect investigations at Fort Valley, Ga., writes that shipments of the Georgia peach crop, estimated to be the largest in the history of the industry, have begun. There are very few signs of curculio. This insect appears to be under complete control, as a result of control activities since the unprecedented outbreak in 1920. Mr. Snapp recently made a hurried trip throughout the southern part of the peach belt for the purpose of making observations on the oriental peach moth.

TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. C. Baker, Entomologist, in Charge

Dr. A. C. Baker visited the Bureau's laboratories at New Orleans, La., and Orlando, Fla., early in May, for the purpose of going over the work under way at these stations. He has now returned to Washington.

GIPSY MOTH AND BROWN-TAIL MOTH INVESTIGATIONS

A. F. Burgess, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

A. F. Burgess was in Washington during the week of May 3, conferring with officials of the Bureau of Entomology. He also attended a conference of the Federal Horticultural Board, to discuss the possibility of releasing from Federal quarantine certain parts of the area included in the present gipsy moth and brown-tail moth quarantine law. As a result of the conference the Federal Horticultural Board will release from quarantine, effective July 1, 1926, all of the area in Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut now included in the barrier zone. This involves all of Berkshire County and the town of Monroe in Massachusetts, 5 towns in Connecticut, and 71 towns in Vermont. The barrier zone includes a strip of territory in western New England and eastern New York, running from the Canadian border to Long Island Sound. The releasing of this area from quarantine has been made possible because of the effective work carried on by the Bureau of Entomology in the New England part of the barrier zone, and by the New York State Conservation Commission, in cooperation with the Bureau, in that part of the barrier zone within the State of New York. As a result of the work carried on in this area, some isolated infestations of the gipsy moth have been located and treated, and have been so nearly eradicated that release from quarantine is possible. Thorough work will be continued throughout the entire zone, and any colonies that may be found will be treated.

Observations which have been made during the spring upon the extent of growth of the foliage, and notes obtained in regard to the first and general hatching of the gipsy moth larvae, indicate that at the end of May the season at Melrose Highlands, Mass., is about two weeks later than in 1925.

S. M. Dohanian, formerly of the Bureau of Entomology, but who has recently been employed on European work for the American Cyanamid Company of New York, returned May 6 to the Bureau work in the Gipsy Moth Laboratory at Melrose Highlands, Mass.

In April and May the following visitors called at the Gipsy Moth Laboratory: Prof. Charles T. Brues, Harvard University; Prof. R. J. Tillyard, Cawthron Institute of Scientific Research, Nelson, New Zealand; Prof. J. A. Manter, Connecticut Agricultural College, with four members of the senior class who are studying entomology; H. L. McIntyre, of the New York Conservation Commission; H. F. Willard, of the Bureau of Entomology; and O. Finnermore, of St. John, New Brunswick.

FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. C. Craighead, Entomologist, in Charge

Dr. D. T. MacDougal, in charge of the plant-physiological work of Carnegie Institute, recently accompanied Dr. Craighead to the Asheville, N. C., field laboratory, to observe certain studies which are being conducted there. Dr. MacDougal is much interested in certain aspects of our problems relating to the death of trees attacked by bark beetles, and offered many valuable suggestions for the continuation of the studies.

About the middle of May Dr. Craighead spent two days at Amherst, Mass., discussing with H. J. MacAloney, the summer's plans for studies of the white-pine weevil.

Leon Rintel and R. C. Hall are assisting Mr. MacAloney in forest-insect problems in the New England States.

A. D. Daughton has been appointed to assist R. A. St. George with the studies of the southern pine beetle at Asheville. J. A. Beal has been appointed and assigned to Asheville on the same work.

Dr. S. A. Graham has three summer assistants, L. W. Orr, G. S. Horton, and Mr. Bjornstad, all students at the University of Minnesota. The salary of Mr. Bjornstad is paid by the State Forestry Department of Minnesota. The willingness of the authorities in Minnesota to furnish this additional assistance well illustrates their interest in our studies.

Ralph Miller has been appointed as field assistant, to help F. P. Keen in the Klamath Lake region on the summer surveys of the western pine beetle.

In the last week of May Mr. St. George and Mr. Beal visited Dublin, Ga., where a considerable amount of turpented timber is reported dying.

Control projects and summer activities in the Western States are now fully under way. J. E. Patterson reports that the season is very early in the Crater Lake National Park, and that work is progressing rapidly. The control operations against the infestation by the mountain pine beetle in the Big Hole Basin of Montana have been initiated under the direction of J. C. Evenden.

After a warning by the Bureau of Entomology, builders are finding that while tar and tar paper are used in waterproofing wood used in flooring, these substances will not prevent attack by our native subterranean termites or "white ants." These insects penetrate such moisture-proofing materials and carry to the wood the moisture necessary for their life. Insulation of wood from the ground by the use of concrete or by impregnating wood with coal-tar creosote is necessary to protect it from termites.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. H. Larrimer, Entomologist, in Charge

L. H. Worthley, Administrator in Charge of Corn Borer Control, was in Washington on May 20 and 21.

Dr. Larrimer returned on May 18 from an extended field trip, during which he visited a number of the field laboratories, including those at Wichita, Kans., San Antonio, Tex., Tempe, Ariz., Sacramento, Calif., and Salt Lake City, Utah.

L. P. Rockwood, Associate Entomologist in charge of the Forest Grove, Oreg., laboratory, made a trip in May into eastern Oregon and Washington to aid in the alfalfa weevil survey in that region. He also investigated a grasshopper outbreak on the Colville Indian Agency at Nespelem, Wash., and made a brief visit to the Sacramento, Calif., laboratory.

Geo. I. Reeves, in charge of the Salt Lake City laboratory, spent a considerable portion of the month on the survey of alfalfa weevil distribution, in the course of which he spent a brief time at the Sacramento, Calif., laboratory.

The following individuals received temporary appointment in this branch of the Bureau during the month: Dean Christenson, Howard C. French, Irven K. Revell and T. J. Blisard.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Willard, of Honolulu, Hawaii, and Arthur Finnamore, of the Plant Inspection Office, St. John, N. B., recently were visitors at the Arlington, Mass., laboratory.

Richard Faxon, of Columbus, Ohio, and Prof. C. O. Reed, of the Department of Agricultural Engineering, Ohio State University, recently inspected the corn borer clean-up and experimental work in northwestern Ohio and southeastern Michigan.

Dr. I. M. Hawley, formerly Entomologist of the State Experiment Station at Logan, Utah, has accepted a probationary appointment as Entomologist to assist in the investigations of the alfalfa weevil at Salt Lake City, Utah. He reported for duty on May 15.

TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, Entomologist, in Charge

Compensation claims incident to the deaths of Messrs. Mingee and McLemore, of Picayune, Miss., were in due time submitted to the Employees Compensation Commission, and information has been received that the maximum allowances have been made to the widows and children of these employees.

Walter Carter, Associate Entomologist in charge of the Twin Falls, Idaho, laboratory, visited Riverside and Berkeley, Calif., early in May to confer with Doctors Carsner and Severin regarding the investigations of the sugar-beet leafhopper under way in that State.

W. A. Thomas, Assistant Entomologist in charge of the Chadbourn, N. C., laboratory, visited the Jekyl Island Golf Club, at Brunswick, Ga., May 26, to check up his experiments on the control of mole crickets on golf greens. Mr. Thomas found the fairways and greens free from these insects, but the heavy vegetation surrounding the fairways showed some infestation.

N. F. Howard, Associate Entomologist in charge of the Columbus, Ohio, laboratory, reports that N. A. Vappula, of the Agricultural Institute of Finland, recently visited Columbus and spent several days studying the work on the Mexican bean beetle, and various other problems.

Four field assistants have been temporarily appointed and assigned in May, as follows: V. E. Romney, investigations of the sugar-beet leafhopper, at Twin Falls, Idaho; E. K. Bynum, the Australian tomato weevil, Gulfport, Miss.; M. W. Stone, wireworms, Walla Walla, Wash.; and M. P. Jones, the Mexican bean beetle, Athens, Ohio.

SOUTHERN FIELD-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Associate Entomologist, Acting in Charge

Elmer Johnson, Agricultural Engineer, and R. H. Flake, Mechanician, of the Tallulah, La., Laboratory, spent several days of May in Washington, attending Patent Office hearings relating to patents upon cotton-dusting machinery. On May 4, in company with Mr. Webb, they made a trip to the Huff-Daland airplane factory at Bristol, Pa., to inspect the new dusting ship about to be purchased by the Bureau for use in control investigations of the cotton-boll weevil.

A number of temporary field assistants were taken on in May, for work on the cotton boll weevil; among them are the following: J. H. Adams, W. B. Brunson, R. L. Callihan, G. H. Hales, H. T. James, J. H. Kyzar, R. Melvin, J. C. Pearson, D. H. Ratcliff, R. A. Robinson, T. S. Ross, S. Sevier, Franklin Sherman, III, Percy E. Stephens, L. B. Thompson, O. L. Turman, and W. H. Wilson.

A seminar was inaugurated May 25, at Tallulah, with full attendance and enthusiastic interest on the part of the personnel of the Delta Laboratory. Dr. J. W. Folsom, in charge of experimental detail, will preside at the weekly meetings for post-graduate study and discussion. All members of the Delta Laboratory organization located at Tallulah, from shop mechanics to administrative officers, are enlisted in this effort to bring the organization to the highest possible plane of coordinated efficiency.

STORED-PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Entomologist, in Charge

A. O. Larson spent the first week of May in Stanislaus and Merced Counties, Calif., conferring with bean-weevil committees and holding Farm Bureau meetings at Hughson, Denair, Mitchell, and Tegner. About 200 growers attended the meeting at Hughson. Studies of the samples taken from last year's crops, made by Larson and Fisher and supplemented by the warehouse reports of this section, have aroused the growers to a realization that if they suffer loss it is largely their own fault. On May 14 and 15 Mr. Larson made an inspection of the bean warehouses in Orange and San Diego Counties, and was pleased to find that although the quantity of beans held in storage was unusually large they were remarkably free from weevils.

W. D. Reed, of the Dried Fruit Insect Laboratory at Fresno, Calif., spent a portion of May in Washington for conference and for library work.

On May 22, Dr. R. T. Cotton fumigated a portion of a large woolen factory in Philadelphia.

Perez Simmons has been elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

On May 15 Dr. Back was present by invitation as an observer at the fumigation of a large cigar factory at Charleston, S. C., where 2,200 pounds of powdered calcium cyanide was used.

JAPANESE BEETLE INVESTIGATIONS

Loren B. Smith, Entomologist, in Charge

N. A. Vappula, Entomologist, representing the Finnish Government Agricultural Institute, spent several days in May at the Japanese Beetle Laboratory, Riverton, N. J., looking over the various phases of control and investigational work.

H. F. Willard, Entomologist, in charge of the Bureau's field laboratory at Honolulu, Hawaii, visited the Japanese Beetle Laboratory on May 13 to confer in regard to the parasite work.

Dr. A. L. Quaintance, accompanied by L. B. Smith, recently visited New Haven, Conn., to investigate the Asiatic beetle situation. In company with Dr. W. E. Britton and Director Slate, he examined the infected territory and made observations on the control work, and other work under way.

TAXONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS

S. A. Rohwer, Entomologist, in Charge

Word has been received from Dr. J. M. Aldrich, who is at present in Guatemala, of a very successful collecting trip, together with a statement that he has been able to rear two adults of two very interesting fruit flies and obtain specimens of some very rare flies which were described many years ago from unique specimens now in the British Museum. Dr. Aldrich also reports attending a conference called to discuss a problem of grasshoppers, attended by representatives from Mexico, Costa Rica, and Guatemala. Dr. Aldrich plans to reach Washington about the middle of June.

Considerable progress has been made in arranging the Casey collection of Coleoptera, and the Museum has secured the services of L. L. Buchanan to do the curatorial work on it. Containing as it does many thousands of species and specimens, it will be many months before the entire collection can be arranged. In doing this work, Mr. Buchanan is aiming to arrange first the groups of most interest to specialists who are likely to visit Washington.

A. B. Champlain and J. N. Knull, of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, spent May 3 and 4 in the Section of Insects studying bark beetles and arranging for exchanges.

G. P. Englehardt, accompanied by his son George, visited the Section of Insects May 28 and 29 to renew his acquaintance with various lepidopterists and discuss classification of certain Lepidoptera with Messrs. Busck and Heinrich.

BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

James I. Hambleton, Apiculturist, in Charge

D. M. T. Morland, Specialist in Charge of Bee Culture at the Rothamsted Agricultural Experiment Station, England, spent the first week of May at the Bee Culture Laboratory. On May 9 he left for a trip to Cornell University and the Central States, to visit various centers and leaders in bee culture.

Prof. Z. P. Metcalf, of North Carolina State College, visited the Bee Culture Laboratory on May 26.

The temporary appointment of Miss Sarah Hilda Black as Junior Biologist has been extended, to enable her to continue the preliminary work begun with the cooperation of the Bureau of Home Economics on the nutritional value of honey.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

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